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Date: 12/16/03

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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GROUP 3600

Applicant : Andrew John Stentz

Serial No. : 09/925,838

Filed : 08/08/2001

Title : OPTICAL AMPLIFIER HAVING AUTOMATIC GAIN CONTROL
WITH IMPROVED PERFORMANCE

Art Unit : 3663

Examiner : Deandra M. Hughes

Docket No. : PH01-01-02

Mail Stop AF
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Arlington, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) and
NOTICE OF APPEAL

Applicants hereby petition the Assistant Commissioner to grant a three (3) month extension of time, up to and including December 16, 2003 in which to respond to the Final Office Action dated June 16, 2003 in the above-identified application.

12/22/2003 MDAMTE1 00000053 501047 09925838

01 FC:2253 475.00 DA
02 FC:2401 165.00 DA

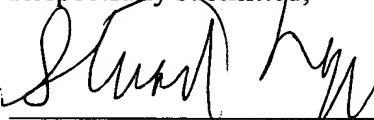
account No. 50-1047.

Applicant hereby respectfully appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Primary Examiner dated June 16, 2003, finally rejecting Claims 1-35.

Authorization is hereby provided to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1047 the appeal fee in the amount of \$165.00. It is further requested that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office charge any additional amounts due, including any additional extensions of time that may be required, or credit any overpayments made to Deposit Account 50-1047.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at (908) 518-7700.

Respectfully submitted,



Stuart H. Mayer Reg. No. 35,277

Date: 12/15/03

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